



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below-named inventors, we declare that:

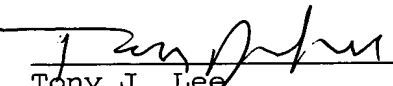
Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenship are as stated below under our names.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and claims of the invention entitled "**RELAY-TO-RELAY DIRECT COMMUNICATION SYSTEM IN AN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM**" and we believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of said invention, which is described and claimed in the specification and claims of patent application Serial No. 09/900,098, which we filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 6, 2001.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. { 1.56(a).

We hereby appoint ROBERT A. JENSEN, Registration No. 24,268; CLARK A. PUNTIGAM, Registration No. 25,763 and CHRISTOPHER O. DUFFY, Registration No. 19,480, comprising the firm of JENSEN & PUNTIGAM, P.S., 1020 United Airlines Bldg., 2033 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98121-2584, **telephone (206) 448-3200** to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Please address all correspondence and telephone calls to: Clark A. Puntigam.

We hereby declare that all statement made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statement made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

  
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